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MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1943

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my 24th Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary Administration of your district.

This report is brief and is according to instructions received from the Ministry of Health in their cirular 10/44 dated February 15th, 1944.

I have the hono r to remain,

Your obedient servant,

A. H. WILSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

18 Victoria Road, Salisbury.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population—Census 1931 : 3,492.
Population—Estimated Mid. 1943—5,567
Area, 1,496 Acres
Rateable Value : £37,768
Sum represented by Penny Rate : £152 9 6
Number of Inhabited Houses as shown by Rate Books end of 1943 : 1,305.

Births, 1943.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
Live	45	38	83	(13 Illegitimate)
Still.	1	0	1	(1 Illegitimate)

Birth Rate, 1943.		England and Wales	
Live	14.9	Live	16.5
Still	0.17	Still	0.51

Birth Rate — Average last 10 years 12.4
England and Wales — ,, ,, 10 ,, 15.04

Deaths : Males, 30. Females 23. Total, 53.

Death Rate (1943) 9.5 — Average last 10 years 10.7
England and Wales ,, 12.1 — ,, ,, 10 ,, 12.2

Number of deaths of infants under one year of age : Males 1 Females 5. Total, 6. (4 illegitimate).

Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live Births)	72.0
England and Wales	49.0
Infantile Mortality Average last 10 years	42.8
England and Wales ,, ,, 10 ,,	55.8

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Disease.	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total deaths
Scarlet Fever	24	24	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0
Pneumonia	10	6	2
Erysipelas	3	2	0
Measles	14	0	0
Whooping Cough	1	0	0

Scarlet Fever. 24 cases were notified during the year and they arose pretty evenly during the whole of the year, I could find no common source of infection, they occurred all over the town and in only four cases were there more than one in a house infected.

Two of the cases were Non-Civilian.

Though no death is given by the registrar general as due to this disease, one of the deaths from pneumonia was in a child notified as scariet fever.

Diphtheria. No case of this disease was notified during the year.

Pneumonia. 10 cases were notified and of these two died. The one was in a child notified as scarlet fever and both were in children under one year.

Measles. Only fourteen cases were notified and none of them required Hospital treatment and none died.

Whooping-Cough. Only one case was notified.

Erysipelas. Three cases were notified and call for no comment.

Tuberculosis. Only one case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was notified during the year in a woman aged 72 and she died shortly after being notified. Four cases of Tubercular glands were notified ; two between 0—5, one between 5—10, one between 5—15.

The second death given by the Registrar General was in a man age 58 from an outside district and had not been notified to me.

Immunisation Against Diphtheria. This campaign continues and during 1943 31 children under five years and 8 between 5 and 15 were freshly immunised. This brings the percentage of those immunised to 47.7% under five years and 83.3% between five and fifteen.

Water Supply.

There has been no alteration in the supply to the Town.

A supply is provided to a Military Camp at Salisbury Hill. This supply is taken from the reservoir through a meter and pumped by the Military to serve several units encamped in the neighbourhood. A metered supply is also provided to the Military Camp on the Common.

Drainage and Sewerage.

During the year the Ministry of Works carried out alterations at the Sewage Disposal Works involving the reconstruction of two of the filter beds and the enlargement of one of the humus beds. This work was carried out in order to enable the works to deal with drainage from the new Common Camp. The Chlorination Plant installed at the Sewage Disposal Works continues to work satisfactorily.

Rivers and Streams.

The Section of the River Kennet for which the Council is responsible was thoroughly cleaned out and weeded during the year, and no nuisance was caused.

Public Cleansing.

House refuse was collected once weekly by motor vehicle.

Paper, metal, bones and other salvageable materials were collected and disposed of in accordance with the requirements of the Government Scheme.

Swimming Bath.

Water is pumped from the river into the bath and is frequently changed, in addition the water is chlorinated by means of the addition of " Chloros " and the amount of free chlorine tested daily by means of the Orthotolodine Test.

Milk Supply.

The milk supply of the town remains satisfactory.

Three of the five producers have " Accredited " licences and samples were taken regularly by the County Council Inspectors to see that the required standard was maintained.

During 1943 the Council decided to take samples of the milk supply of the town and submit them for bacteriological examination. For that purpose 18 samples were taken and the results are as follows :—

Milk.	*Samples Taken.*	*Satisfactory.*	*Unsatisfactory.*
Tuberculin Tested	1	1	—
Accredited	3	2	1
Pasteurised	2	2	—
Ordinary	12	8	4

All bad samples were retaken within a fornight and proved satisfactory.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

	No. of Inspections.	No. of Defects.	Informal Notices.	Statutory Notices.	Remedied by 3.	Remedied by 4.	Remedied after verbal instructions only.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Nuisances ...	178	39	33	1	27	1	5
Slaughter-houses ...	22	2	—	—	—	—	2
Knackers' Yards ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Places where food is prepared ...	19	2	1	—	1	—	—
Cowsheds ... Dairies and Milkstores	26	6	4	—	3	—	2
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bakehouses	15	3	2	—	2	—	1
Butcher's Shops ...	23	4	4	—	3	—	1
Factory Inspections	35	10	8	—	8	—	2
Totals	320	66	52	1	44	1	13

Milk and Dairies.

Number of Wholesale Producers registered (1943)	5
,, ,, Retail Purveyors ,, ,, ...	11
,, ,, Certificates issued Producers ,, ...	0
,, ,, ,, ,, Retailers ,, ...	0
Approximate number of Cows	150

Meat and Other Foods.

The Ministry of Food Scheme continued to operate throughout the year. The total number of condemnations was 350, 66 of which were in respect of entire carcases.

The total meat condemned was 17 tons 14 cwt. 3 qrs. which was approximately 5% of the total meat inspected. This compares with 10 ton 15 cwt. condemned last year.

There was also a total of 11 cwts. of other food stuffs mainly tinned foods, which was condemned during the year.

The local slaughterhouse officials continue to show courtesy and co-operation as in the past, thus assisting the work of inspection.

Notices received of regular slaughter	1
,, ,, ,, casual ,, ...	10
Number of Condemnations	350

TOTAL CAUSES OF DEATH.

Causes of Death.	M.	F.
All Causes	30	23
Typhoid and Paratyphoid		
Cerebrospinal Fever ..		
Scarlet Fever .. .		
Whooping Cough ..		
Diphtheria		
Tuberc. of Respir. syst. ..	1	1
Other form of Tuberc.		
Syphilitic Diseases ..		
Influenza	1	
Measles		
Ac. Polio-myelitis and Enceph.		
Ac. Inf. Enceph.		
Cancer of b. cav; and oesoph (M.) uterus (F)	2	1
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	1	
Cancer of breast ..		
Cancer of all other sites ..	3	
Diabetes		1
Intra. cran. vasc. lesions	1	4
Heart disease	9	6
Other dis. of circ. syst. ..	1	3
Bronchitis	1	1
Pneumonia	1	1
Other Resp. diseases ..		
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum		
Diarrhœa under two years		

Causes of Death.	M.	F.
Appendicitis		
Other digest. diseases ..		
Nephritis	2	
Puerp. and postabort. sepsis		
Other maternal causes ..		
Premature birth		
Cong. malf. birth inj. Inf. dis.	1	3
Suicide		
Road Traffic Act	1	
Other violent causes ..		
All other causes ..	2	
Deaths of Infants under 1 year—		
Total	1	5
Legitimate		2
Illegitimate	1	3
Live Births		
Total	45	38
Legitimate	42	28
Illegitimate	3	10
Stillbirths		
Total	1	0
Legitimate	0	0
Illegitimate	1	0
Population	5,567	